

and inflammatory lesions, as in gout and oxaluria, and it is within the bounds of possibility that many other poisonous substances may result from faulty digestive and metabolic processes, which finding their way into the general circulation, thus produce the indefinite symptoms of muscular rheumatism.

But few words are necessary in closing to illustrate the arterio-sclerotic type of rheumatism. It occurs in elderly individuals in whom the signs of senile decay are plainly evident and is characterized by more or less constant pain of the extremities, particularly the feet and legs, and is accompanied by muscular stiffness. The pains and stiffness are most evident on attempting to walk after resting, but improve somewhat on moderate exercise; are not troublesome at night when the patient is in bed; are not accompanied by constitutional disturbances, nor any marked blood changes, although in some cases there may be indications of interstitial nephritis. The symptoms in these cases I have always looked upon as due to senile arterial changes.

MEDICAL TESTIMONY.

Abstract of a paper by Dr. S. B. Lyon, San Jose, read before the Santa Clara County Society.

The author calls attention to the present unfortunate and rather humiliating condition into which medical expert testimony has fallen, and points out the manner in which the average physician when placed on the witness stand is made to appear as the mere plaything of the attorneys in the case. He does not believe that this is due to the fact that the average physician knows less medicine than the best lawyer, but he believes that it is due to the fact that the average lawyer prepares himself most carefully and, on the particular points at issue, is in court a better physician than is the best physician a lawyer. In other words, the physician seldom tries to know well the relation of his profession to the law. And I therefore bring before you to-night the following points on medical testimony for discussion:

1. The scope of medical science has so broadened that none of our best colleagues can claim to-day to be a specialist of all its respective branches.
2. The principal qualification for a medical witness that the law prescribes at present is "ordinary skill."
3. No case of medical testimony shall be undertaken before a perfect knowledge of the case is arrived at.
4. The physician and attorney of the same side of the case shall have a thorough consultation before the case comes up, in which the physician shall inform the attorney of all the probabilities of the testimony.
5. When the physician takes the witness stand he shall bear in mind three successful examinations before his testimony will gravitate the scale of justice in favor of the side he was a witness for. These examinations are:

(a) The direct examination by the counsel for the side on which he appears. In this examination, whether he is to testify as to fact she has observed as a result of an examination, or as to the expression of an opinion in answer to a hypothetical question, his answer shall be short, using plain words to express his ideas, in a loud, clear voice, and be positive in his statements as to location, measurements, dates, personal observation and opinion. No hear-

say or citation of a case to be used for the support of his opinion.

(b) The cross-examination by the opposing counsel. In this examination he shall collect all his powers and control his senses, to be cool, and not to forget for one moment that he is authority himself, and is not before a board of examiners to obtain his license to practice. He shall have his attorney at his side, and on his feet to object to any question that does not pertain to the case. He shall not lower his dignity to volunteer discussion on all topics of medicine with a layman, but gently and coolly advise his cross-examiner to take a course for that in the proper place equipped for that purpose. He shall by all means ask the court to modify the answers "yes" or "no," which the cross-examiner likes to take advantage of. To any authority quoted to him by the cross-examiner, even of his own beloved great teacher, he shall consider his own authority the best.

(c) The re-examination by first counsel. This examination is either for the explanation of some variations in the cross-examination, or to enter the gates opened by the careless cross-examiner. In this examination he shall be especially careful not to introduce any new facts or theories in addition to what has been stated in the direct examination, as this would render him liable to a further cross-examination.

6. Whereas the domain of medicine, as stated in paragraph 1, has so broadened that every branch of it constitutes a specialty in itself, the medical organizations of the different states shall request their respective legislators to pass a law that only specialists in their respective branches shall be eligible to testify as experts, and shall receive a remuneration for their services, prescribed by their respective fee bills, whether called by the state or otherwise, and not as some of the states consider, that the special skill of a physician is not his personal property (Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Minnesota and Texas). See A. N. Taylor, page 172.

7. All the medical societies at their regular meetings shall from time to time consider the question of medical testimony and as much as possible bring their members to accord, so as to avoid controversy with their colleagues on the witness stand. This could be brought about by the following:

(a) To promote a more fraternal feeling towards each other through the influence of the medical society.

(b) Opposite medical witnesses shall consult and deliberate upon the merits of the case before they take the witness stand.

(c) Each of us shall seek for fame mostly in the midst of our medical society, every member of which shall extend his hand of charity and good feeling to encourage and assist his colleague in every way he can.

COUNTY SOCIETIES.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

At the meeting of the Los Angeles County Association held October 11th, the general subject of discussion was plague. Dr. C. B. Nichols delivered the principal address, and reviewed the etiology, pathology, symptoms, modes of transmission and prophylaxis. The discussion was further continued by Dr. N. K. Foster, Secretary of the State Board of Health, who dilated upon what was being done in San Francisco and elsewhere to limit the spread and eventually eradicate the disease. It was further discussed by Dr. Brooks of the Marine Hospital Service and Dr. Powers, health officer of the City of Los

Angeles. Dr. F. C. E. Mattison and Dr. Albert Moore called the attention of the association to the fact that the City Council was apparently about to reduce the working force of the health department, and intimated that this was intended for political reasons. In view of these facts, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Los Angeles City Council for some unknown reason have passed an ordinance abolishing three sanitary, two milk, one lodging house and one quarantine inspector, the Los Angeles County Medical Association deprecate such action as it seems both unwise and unsafe, especially at this time when we are threatened with an outbreak of bubonic plague;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That it be the sense of the meeting that the Los Angeles County Medical Association condemn any such action by said body;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the council at its meeting tomorrow morning, also that a copy be sent to the mayor and the public press.

A committee of five, consisting of Drs. George L. Cole, Stanley B. Black, James P. Booth, C. B. Nichols and F. W. Steadom were appointed to attend a meeting of the council on October 12th, and in the name of the association protest against any reduction in the health force at this time. This committee was supported by the mayor and city health board, and the results of its efforts were entirely successful. No reduction was made in the working force of the health department; in fact, \$20,000.00, above ordinary expenses was appropriated for general cleaning up of the city.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY.

The regular monthly meeting of the San Joaquin County Medical Society was held at the residence of Dr. C. R. Harry, September 27, 1907. Dr. Hammond in the chair; Dr. R. B. Knight was appointed secretary pro tem because of the absence of Dr. B. J. Powell, who had been unexpectedly called out of town. The minutes of June 28th were read and approved. Members present were: Drs. R. R. Hammond, C. R. Harry, Minerva Goodman, Mary C. Taylor, Margaret H. Smyth, H. E. Sanderson, J. D. Dameron, H. N. Cross, J. P. Hull, F. R. Clarke, S. W. R. Langdon, E. A. Arthur, W. W. Fitzgerald, A. W. Hoisholt, E. L. Blackmun and R. B. Knight. The name of Dr. B. F. Walker was proposed for membership by Drs. Hull and Cross and referred to the usual committee.

The Bubonic Plague situation was informally discussed by the members present. The president appointed a committee consisting of Drs. Langdon, Arthur and Harry to act with the State Pure Food Commission. The paper of the evening was read by Dr. Harry entitled "A Case of Appendicitis With Unusual Complications," and was widely discussed by those present. After refreshments the Society adjourned.

R. B. KNIGHT, Secretary Pro Tem.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY.

The regular society meeting was held October 16th with the following present: Drs. Osborne, Jordan, Ulrich, Belknap, Snow, Hopkins, Newell, Cooper, Beattie, Asay, Whiffen, Paul, Simpson, Kapp, Wagner, Harris, Hervey, Walter and Park.

Dr. Wm. Simpson presented a very able paper on "The Plague," giving particular attention to the different forms assumed by that malady. (See The Journal, this issue.)

Drs. Asay and Beattie told of their experiences with the plague, during their residence in the Orient.

Members of our San Jose Board of Health told of their work of cleaning up our city so as to prevent as far as possible any chance of the disease getting a foothold here.

On November 2d we meet with the San Benito County Medical Society at San Juan and a large delegation will go to that city.

K. C. PARKS, Secretary.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The following resolutions are very timely and worthy of careful consideration and endorsement by other county societies:

WHEREAS, It seems to be a common custom among Druggists to prescribe for any person applying to them for medical aid; and whereas the larger part of such prescriptions call for some one of the so-called Patent Medicines; and whereas such prescribing places the value of patent medicines as of more efficacy in the estimation of the patient than the medicines prescribed by the regular authorized physician; and whereas such druggist prescriptions work a financial hardship on the physician, and at the same time is of no advantage to the druggist; therefore

"BE IT RESOLVED, That the Santa Cruz County Medical Society, in regular session, Oct. 7, 1907, dose condemn the practice of druggists prescribing, and will, as far as possible, discontinue its patronage of those drug stores which continue to prescribe any remedy whatsoever.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Santa Cruz County Medical Society be and is instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to every druggist in Santa Cruz County."

SHASTA COUNTY.

Proceedings Shasta County Medical Society, October 19, 1907.

Shasta County Medical Society met in regular session at Mammoth Copper Co. Hospital, Kennett, Cal., October 19, 1907, the Society being the guest of Dr. C. J. Teass.

The morning session was taken up with visiting the hospital, which is one of the most up-to-date in Northern California. Dr. C. F. Welty of San Francisco, performed a mastoid operation, which was much appreciated by all present, after which a chicken lunch was served. President R. F. Wallace presided at the afternoon session and the following papers were presented:

1. Indications for operation for chronic mastoiditis and suppurative conditions of the middle ear, Dr. C. F. Welty, San Francisco, Cal.

2. Diagnosis of typhoid perforation, Dr. E. J. Cornish, La Moine, Cal.

3. Sporadic dysentery, Dr. A. B. Gilliland, Cottonwood, Cal.

4. Gonorrhea, Dr. S. T. White, Redding, Cal.

5. Injuries to the Chest, Dr. B. F. Saylor, Redding, Cal.

After a lively discussion of all papers the business meeting followed. The treasurer's report for the past year was read and adopted.

Drs. J. P. Sandholdt, Wm. C. Tuckerman, A. A. Milliken and M. G. Varian were elected to membership.

It being the time for the annual election of officers, the following were elected:

President, Dr. C. J. Teass, Kennett.

Vice-President, Dr. B. E. Stevenson, Redding.

Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Phil. H. Weber, Redding.

Executive Committee, Drs. E. J. Cornish, S. T. White, R. F. Wallace.

Trustees, Drs. Robt. T. Legge, C. E. Reed, J. H. Soothill.

A vote of thanks was given Dr. C. F. Welty for

his kindness in coming to Kennett and operating before the society; to Dr. H. B. Graham for providing the patient and to Dr. C. J. Teass for the excellent entertainment he had provided for us. A visit was then paid to the immense smelter of the Mammoth Copper Co., which appealed greatly to all, after which we returned to the hospital, where an elaborate turkey dinner awaited us and to which all did justice.

The following were present: Drs. Wallace, Saylor, White, Lawry, Stevenson, Weber, Soothill, Varian, Gilliland, Cornish, Milliken, Frizell, Teass, Graham, Tuckerman, and Sandholdt, and all state it was the best meeting in the Society's history.

PHIL. H. WEBER, Secretary.

PUBLICATIONS.

The Rise of Man. A Sketch of the Origin of the Human Race. By Paul Carus. The Open Court Publishing Company, Chicago, 1907.

Diseases of the Rectum. Their Consequences and Non-Surgical Treatment. By W. C. Brinckerhoff, M. D. Orban Publishing Co., Chicago, 1907.

Plant Breeding. Comments on the Experiments of Nilsson and Burbank. By Hugo de Vries, Professor of Botany in the University of Amsterdam. The Open Court Publishing Co., Chicago, 1907.

A Practitioner's Handbook of Materia Medica and Therapeutics Based Upon the Established Physiological Actions and Indications in Small Doses. By Thomas S. Blair, M. D., Member American Medical Association, Pennsylvania Medical Society, Harrisburg Academy of Medicine, Member Visiting Staff of Harrisburg City Hospital, etc. Published by The Medical Council, 4105 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, 1907.

Woman in Girlhood, Wifehood and Motherhood. Her Responsibilities and Duties at all Periods of Life. A Guide in the Maintenance of Her Health and that of Her Children. By Myer Solis-Cohen, A. B., M. D., Instructor in Physical Diagnosis, University of Pennsylvania; visiting physician to the Hospital for Diseases of the Lungs, Chestnut Hill; assistant physician to the Philadelphia General Hospital; physician to the Children's Dispensary of the Jewish Hospital, Philadelphia. The John C. Winston Co.

A Text-Book of the Practice of Medicine for Students and Practitioners. By Hobart Amory Hare, M. D., B. Sc., Professor of Therapeutics in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia; physician to the Jefferson Medical College Hospital; one time Professor of Diseases of Children in the University of Pennsylvania, etc. Lea Brothers & Co., 1907.

The appearance of a new edition of this text-book does not call for an extended review, since both the scope and the manner of presentation of the earlier edition are already well known. The general arrangement of the subject matter is, for the most part, like that of the average book of its kind. In some respects this is very unsatisfactory and inconsistent. Thus, in the opening chapter on infectious diseases, are included diseases due to known

bacteria, as well as diseases the etiological factor of which is unknown; as measles, smallpox and yellow fever; any or all of which may be due to an animal parasite. Toward the end of the book may be found the section devoted to diseases due to animal parasites, like malaria, African lethargy and filariasis. Malaria is certainly an infectious disease if yellow fever is to be included in that class. All the evidence certainly points to the latter being a disease of protozoan origin.

In the rewriting the author has made excellent use of the results of recent investigations. This is noticeable in many places, particularly in the discussion of infectious diseases, notably those met with in tropical climates. The amount of space given to the latter undoubtedly reflects the increased interest in them largely stimulated by the late territorial acquisitions of the United States. Criticism of unimportant details would hardly be justified in face of the general excellence of the work as a whole.

A. J. L.

Hints on the Management of Commoner Infections.

By R. W. Marsden, M. D., M. R. C. P., D. P. H. Honorary Physician to the Ancoats Hospital, Manchester; Honorary Assistant Physician to the Manchester Hospital for Consumption; formerly Medical Superintendent Monsall Fever Hospital and Clinical Lecturer in Infectious Diseases, Owens College. E. B. Treat & Company, 1907.

This small volume of 128 pages contains a resume of the principles of treatment to be observed in the management of infections or intoxications which are due to the direct or indirect action of micro-organisms. The book is written for practitioners and students. Written in unusually good English, the manual also has the advantage of being extremely well printed. The opening chapter considers general measures employed in handling fever cases. The condemnation of the routine use of antipyretic drugs will receive the support of intelligent practitioners. Of the use of alcohol in fevers the author says: "It may be of value as an occasional stimulant, but even under such conditions it is questionable whether, in cases where a repetition is likely to be called for, its beneficial effects can be compared to the result obtained from a fomentation or stupe applied to the precordial region in some cases, or to favorable effects of a hot or mustard pack in others." The bulk of the volume is given to a discussion of the treatment of specific infections. In this part, nor elsewhere, do we find any reference to Wright's method—the so-called opsonic method. Finally the work is concluded with an appendix containing practical directions for isolation and disinfection.

A. J. L.

A Treatise on the Principles and Practice of Medicine.

By Arthur Edwards, A. M., M. D., Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine and of Clinical Medicine in the Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago; Attending Physician to Mercy, Welsey Hospitals, etc. Lea Brothers & Co., 1907.

This large volume of over 1300 pages is a new book on medicine written by a teacher and practitioner of long experience. Differing little in scope from many similar works, it presents the same traditional classification, although characterized, perhaps, by a clearer and more orderly arrangement than usual. Careful use has been made of types of various prominence to facilitate the finding of a topic and the appreciation of its importance. An unusual amount of space has been devoted to treatment, to the detailed consideration of drugs, and to numerous formulae and prescriptions. The reader